

TRIBUTE TO TERRY BRICKLEY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Terry Brickley, who passed away from pneumonia on October 6, 2003. Throughout his life, Terry was an exceptional community activist and a tireless crusader of rights for the disabled, himself a sufferer from multiple sclerosis. He is survived by his life partner of thirteen years, Sally Jorgensen, his daughter, Tori Bradford, and her husband and son.

A native Californian, Terry lived in Santa Cruz for the past thirty-seven years and has played an important role in this community during that time. He played a vital role in making public spaces handicap accessible, including making the transit district in Santa Cruz the first in the country to have fully accessible buses, long before the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed. In addition to his amazing work as an activist, Terry also founded, headed, and sat on the boards of several organizations dedicated to improving the lives of the disabled, including Adaptability Unlimited; a San Francisco chapter of the California Association for Physically Handicapped which is now the Californians for Disability Rights; and the Stroke Center at Cabrillo College.

I had personal contact with him while serving in the California Assembly, as we worked together to pass a bill that would allow people eager to return to work to remain on Disability Insurance until their new job insurance came into effect. With the passage of this bill, it made it possible for more people to return to work and once again participate in their community. He has shown it is possible for one person to make a difference in the lives of so many people, not only in his local community but across the state, in starting a movement that works to guarantee equal rights for all Americans. Terry was an inspiration to me and his legacy will not easily be forgotten. He was a true friend and will be missed by many.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Terry Brickley's achievements and accomplishments. Throughout his life he demonstrated an outstanding commitment to this community and to equal rights nationwide that should serve as an inspiration to everyone. His service is admirable and his character and dedication have made lasting impacts on our community and the people with whom he worked, myself included. I join the County of Santa Cruz, and friends and family in honoring this truly commendable man and all of his lifelong achievements.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD FELTSCHER

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the lifelong service of Donald Feldscher. Mr. Feldscher has been a dedicated civil service employee who has worked with the City of Philadelphia for the past twenty-five years. His years of service are indicative of an unwavering commitment to his community and to the City of Philadelphia.

Mr. Feldscher has led an exemplary life of service. He maintained a position evaluating property for the City of Philadelphia until the age of seventy-five. His hard work throughout the years has been an inspiration to his co-workers and the community.

Mr. Feldscher will retire from the City of Philadelphia on October 31, 2003. In recognition of his years of service to the people of the Philadelphia community, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to congratulate him on his retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO LEWIS A. WATKINS, SR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Lewis A. Watkins, Sr. for his dedication to serving his community and the City of New York.

For almost 30 years, Lewis has worked for the City of New York in a variety of administrative positions. During most of that time, he has also dedicated himself to serving Community Planning Board #3 in Bedford Stuyvesant, which represents the largest African-American community in New York City.

Educated, diligent and committed, he was promoted from Youth Coordinator for the district to District Manager of Community Board #3. Mr. Watkins' primary role is to coordinate the delivery of city services and to advise a Board of 50 members who are appointed by the Brooklyn Borough President and City Council Members. In this capacity, he works with residents, block associations, community-based and civic organizations, businesses, and churches in order to best serve the neighborhood. For issues in Bedford Stuyvesant relating to housing, seniors, health care, parks, child welfare, day care, education, transportation, police, fire, environmental protection and economic development, Lewis is the main source of information for the City and plays a key role in solving problems for the community related to these areas.

Lewis received his Master of Science Degree in Secondary Education with a Minor in Urban Policy Science from State University of New York at Stony Brook University. He taught high school for several years but realizes now that city government has been his true calling.

In retrospect, he also realizes that his inspiration for community services came from his role models, his mother, Bernice Watkins and his maternal grandmother.

Mr. Speaker, Lewis A. Watkins has been a dedicated public servant to his community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable individual.

TESTIMONY OF MICHELE DE JESU

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues the testimony of

Michele De Jesu from a hearing in regards to Long Island's statistical status, as designated by the Office of Management and Budget. This testimony was given at the Alfonse M. D'Amato United States Courthouse on June 20, 2003.

I am Michele De Jesu, and I am thankful to learn from this hearing.

I know that the Census Bureau has had a tremendous job in counting populations. Now I am learning that the Bureau can make conclusive definitions as to what to call those populous areas.

We can all agree on one thing: Every individual is entitled to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness under the Constitution.

If Nassau County is not counted as an entity; if Suffolk County is not counted as an entity;

If that be the case, where does it lead each and every impoverished homeless person, too numerous to count? I wonder if they are seen in the census books.

Please help the housing agencies that serve the homeless, poor and mentally challenged, agencies like HALI (Hands Across Long Island) and count us so that our government can represent us too.

Please redefine your definitions rather than depersonalize whole counties and thus each individual.

Please reevaluate and reconsider, and may the OMB not deny us of our unalienable rights.

VICTOR GARZA HONORED FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of Victor Garza and would like to recognize his extraordinary and tireless service to the people of Santa Clara County.

Victor, who has been called the "Latino Voice of San Jose," retired last month after 26 years as a Veteran Services Officer for the County of Santa Clara.

Victor has served on numerous boards of directors and community committees related to education, youth and health, including his current role as chairman of the La Raza Roundtable, boardmember for the Center for Training and Careers, and as a leader in the American G.I. Forum.

Victor is a former Navy mechanic who served in the Korean war, and has been an outspoken advocate for veterans throughout Santa Clara County, fighting for access to services and recognition for our veterans.

Originally from Eagle Pass, TX, Victor came to San Jose in 1971 when, after leaving the Navy and farm work, Garza enrolled at San Jose State University. At 34, the man who never graduated from high school worked full-time as a foreman at a bus manufacturing company in Hayward while taking a full load of classes at night. He graduated with a master's degree in public affairs.

Throughout his career, he has also organized Latino job fairs, boycotted against job discrimination and founded an organization to send Latinos to college.

Victor has devoted his life to enrich and advance his community, and his contributions